

Social Security Advisory Board
Minutes
Board Meeting
November 20, 2015

Location: 400 Virginia Avenue, S.W., Suite 625
Washington, D.C. 20024

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SSAB Members: Henry Aaron, Chair
Lanhee Chen
Alan Cohen
Bernadette Franks-Ongoy
Jagadeesh Gokhale
Dorcas Hardy
Barbara Kennelly

Presenters: **Judy Chesser**, Deputy Commissioner, Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Social Security Administration
Bonnie Kind, Associate Commissioner, Office of Budget, Social Security Administration
Dan Bertoni, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Team, U.S. Government Accountability Office

SSAB Staff: Claire Green, Staff Director
Jackie Chapin, Policy Chief
David Warner, Management Chief
Anita Kelly, Communications Director
Jenn Rigger, Senior Advisor
Joel Feinleib, Staff Economist
Jeremy Elder, Policy Analyst
Bethel Dejene, Research Analyst
Hong Han, Research Analyst
Caitlyn Tateishi, Policy Analyst
Matthew Graves, Research Consultant

At its November meeting, the Board met with Judy Chesser, Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs (OLCA) at the Social Security Administration (SSA). Ms. Chesser began by discussing the provisions in the recently passed Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, specifically the ones relevant to SSA. She noted that OLCA is still working through the logistics of how SSA will implement several of the provisions. Next, SSA Associate Commissioner for Budget, Bonnie Kind, discussed the Bipartisan Budget Act's implications for the agency's administrative budget for FY 2016. Ms. Kind noted that with full funding SSA would be better equipped to absorb fixed cost increases such as inflationary and pay-related increases. In addition, full funding would allow SSA to address several "critical" needs. For example, it would allow the agency to modernize its IT infrastructure and to address the rising post-entitlement backlogs at the agency.

Later, the Board met with Dan Bertoni, Director of Education, Workforce, and Income Security at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). Mr. Bertoni discussed GAO's 2013 report on SSA's Representative Payee Program with the Board. He also discussed the current and long-term challenges of the Representative Payee Program as well as the steps SSA has taken, or could take, to address these challenges.

I certify that the minutes written for the November 20, 2015 meeting of the Social Security Advisory Board are correct.



Henry J. Aaron

Chairman
Social Security Advisory Board